

June 30, 2020

Dear SBCSC families,

The issue of safely reopening schools in August has been a primary concern for the entire community, but particularly for parents, teachers, and students. After close collaboration with the St. Joseph County Health Department, I'm pleased to provide you with the details of how we plan to safely bring our students back to school and into classrooms to continue learning. School start dates are on the corporation website (http://sb.school/calendar) and align with the start dates of previous academic years. Calendars will be mailed to every household in July.

The corporation has been in regular contact with the St. Joseph County Health Department over the course of the last few months. Based on what we have learned about transmission of the virus, and on the recommendations of health experts, the following health protocols will be in place at every school to reduce the chance of students spreading or contracting COVID-19:

- All staff and students are required to have a mask with them at all times.
 There will be times indoors or in enclosed spaces that six feet of physical distance cannot be maintained.
- Students and staff will be required to be fever-free for 72 hours without use of fever-reducing medication before returning to school.
- In-school clinics will identify and use a separate space to treat symptomatic students.
- Visitors and guests in school buildings will be restricted.
- Instructional space and scheduling flexibility will be maximized.
- Employee cleaning procedures will be enhanced with additional hand sanitizing stations.

- "Perfect attendance" incentives will be discontinued for students and staff.
- Lunches will be adjusted to maximize available open space and utilize alternate scheduling to adhere to safety guidelines.

As you know, the health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff is a top priority. We are confident that adhering to these health protocols will help ensure that we curtail the continued spread of the virus, while providing our students with enriching, in-person instruction. We will revisit these procedures regularly, and make modifications if and when necessary, with the guidance of health experts.

Join me for virtual Talks with Todd in July for more updates:

- Tuesday, July 14, 4:00 p.m. (specific focus on transportation, referendum, strategic plan)
- Tuesday, July 28, 9:00 a.m. (specific focus on transportation, referendum, strategic plan)

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing our students back in our buildings in August.

Best wishes and enjoy the summer!

C. Todd Cummings, Ph.D.

Superintendent of Schools